

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the Abstract of the Disclosure as follows:

A binding apparatus for printed sheets ~~according to the invention~~ includes a carrying-in conveyor part that ~~sets printed sheets in a planar manner on a conveyance surface of a carrying conveyor to positionally shift the printed sheets in a direction of conveyance so that leading edges thereof in the direction of conveyance can be seen from above, and conveys the printed sheets in succession in a transverse direction;~~ a reverse conveyor part contiguous to the carrying-in conveyor part ~~to convey the printed sheets upward from the transverse direction and convey the printed sheets downward in a direction opposed to the transverse direction;~~ an accumulating part that ~~sets the printed sheets in upright position at a terminal end of the reverse conveyor part to arrange and accumulate the same in the transverse direction;~~ and a binding part that binds the printed sheets thus accumulated. The reverse conveyor part includes an upper conveyor and a lower conveyor divided vertically in a portion thereof in which printed sheets are conveyed upward. ~~The lower conveyor has a branch part provided at a terminal end thereof to discharge the printed sheets from the conveyor, while the upper conveyor has a holding part provided at a start end thereof to hold a trailing end of the printed sheets held by the conveyor in a predetermined position. A branch part and a holding part are provided at a junction of an upper conveyor and a lower conveyor of the reverse conveyor part so as to provide the functions of taking out non-defective printed sheets and defective printed sheets and eliminating a space at a junction of the upper conveyor and the lower conveyor, thereby simplifying the conveyor device.~~